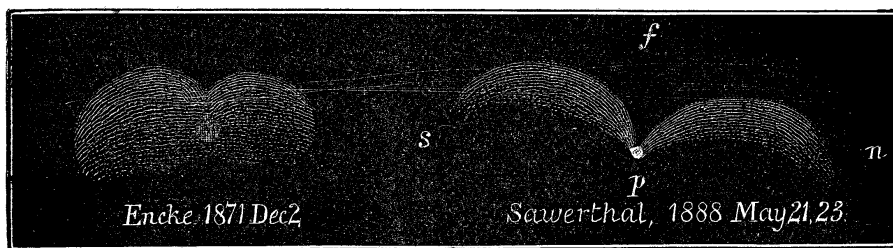


perhaps be well to repeat that all the estimates of brightness have been made in an illuminated field.



Lord Crawford's Observatory, Dun Echt:
1888, June 4.

The sketch represents the comet as seen with a power of 240 about 13^h 30^m G.M.T. in twilight without artificial illumination of the field. For the sake of comparison, Prof. A. Hall's drawing of Encke's comet made at Washington in 1871 is reproduced. (Note added July 16, 1888.)

Note on the Glasgow Star Catalogue.
By Professor R. Grant, F.R.S.

It is now five years since the Glasgow Star Catalogue was published, and it is gratifying to me to know that since its first appearance it has been largely used by astronomers in connection with extra-meridional observations of the minor planets and of comets. This circumstance has encouraged me in an endeavour which I formed, shortly after the publication of the Catalogue, to increase its usefulness still further by a reobservation of the stars in the Catalogue, the places of which, when compared with Bessel's places, exhibited larger discordances than can be accounted for by the ordinary errors of observation. The results thus obtained I contemplated incorporating with the earlier results, either in the form of a Supplementary Catalogue or a new edition of the Catalogue itself, unaccompanied, however, by the annual results of the observations, which constituted so large a part of the work published in 1883. The latter is the form which I have decided upon adopting, and the work of the Observatory is now being directed to a scrutiny of the Catalogue and the preparation of the new star places. The auxiliary computations of precession and secular variation are also receiving due attention. The precessions were computed in duplicate and compared, but the secular variations were not computed in duplicate, and errata occur in them which have been pointed out to me by Mr. J. Plummer and others. All the auxiliary computations of the Catalogue are now undergoing a careful revision at the Observatory. My best thanks are due to those astronomers who have kindly made known to me such errata as came

under their notice in the course of their astronomical researches. According to present arrangement the Catalogue, thus revised and strengthened by new observations, will be ready for printing about the close of next year, and will be in the hands of astronomers in the following summer.

The Observatory, Glasgow:
1888, May 30.

Errata in Monthly Notices, Vol. XLVIII.

Page 341, May 10—*dele* Apparent R.A. and Apparent N.P.D. of Comet.

Page 342, bottom line—*for* Lalande 46809 *read* Anonymous. *Dele* R.A., N.P.D., and Authority for this star.

Vol. XLVII.

Page 550, June 19—the G.M.T. should be $11^{\text{h}} 23^{\text{m}} 55^{\text{s}}$ *instead of* $11^{\text{h}} 53^{\text{m}} 55^{\text{s}}$.